Statistically Speaking

It's a sign that summer is almost over. Libraries across the Commonwealth of Kentucky submitted their Annual Reports to KDLA in August. The statistics from these reports are compiled into a 79-page publication entitled *Statistical Report of Kentucky Public Libraries*. The Fiscal Year 2004-2005 edition, a compilation of statistics from last year's Annual Reports, is now available online and at your local public library.

The online versions of the reports are *Bibliostat Collect* and *Bibliostat Connect.* They are products developed by Informata.com that assist librarians in compiling and analyzing statistical data. Each year, information is collected from public libraries and compiled into statewide and national reports. Kentucky's *Bibliostat Collect* was built to respond to the needs of the public library community in facilitating quick, efficient and accurate data collection. *Bibliostat Connect* makes it easier to find pertinent statistics and effectively present them in charts and graphs that can tell the library story.

The *2004-2005 Statistical Report* of *Kentucky Public Libraries* presents county-by-county library statistics in 77 categories, a series of charts listing the top counties in various per capita library measures and a summary of library statistics for the most recent year, as well as comparisons with three prior years. The cross-index of county and item number by page number allows a quick means to locate a county statistic. Included are library comparisons, ranks and a list of recommended web sites devoted to public library statistics.

Did you know?

The cost per person for library materials in Kentucky public libraries is $3.27, roughly the same as a BIG MAC© and fries.

There are 48% more registered public library borrowers than registered voters who cast ballots in the 2004 presidential election.

There are 18 times more reference questions in Kentucky public libraries than there are traffic accidents in the state.

These fun stats and many more are included in the *Statistical Report of Kentucky Public Libraries* online at http://kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/statistics.htm on the KDLA website. Librarians interested in learning more about *Bibliostat Connect* can sign up for free workshops, sponsored by the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, at http://www.kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/continuinged/registration090606.htm September 6 in Lexington, September 13 in Bowling Green and September 14 in Hartford.

KDLA Announces 2007 Subgrant Opportunities

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives grant program provides subgrants to libraries across the state to help them meet the needs of their customers. The grant monies fund things such as a children's library program to an all-out library technology overhaul. All libraries are invited to apply for the following competitive subgrants.

2007 Public Library Programming Subgrants: Provides funding to public libraries to enhance, expand and provide programming that will meet the specific need of their community. DEADLINE: September 1, 2006

2007 Planning for Automation Subgrants: Provides funding for the hiring and support of a technology consultant to accomplish the goal of developing and implementing a cooperative shared automation system. DEADLINE: Sept. 15, 2006

2007 Library Automation Subgrants: 50% matching subgrants are provided to assist libraries in automating their systems. These subgrants are divided into two categories: Academic and Public. DEADLINE: September 15, 2006

2007 Library Innovation Subgrants: Provides funding for innovation, creative, technological solutions to service problems in libraries. DEADLINE: September 15, 2006

2007 Library Assistive Technology Subgrants: Provides funding for public libraries for adaptive technologies, with preference given to widening services to underserved and challenged populations. DEADLINE: September 15, 2006

2007 Graduate Library School Tuition Reimbursement Grants: Provides reimbursement for public library staff for successfully completed classes from ALA accredited graduate programs. See guidelines for deadlines.

Federal subgrants are made possible by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. Grant applications and guidelines are available online at http://kdla.ky.gov/information/grants.htm. If you are unable to access the applications or guidelines, you may request hardcopies from Donna Hedges by calling 502-564-8300, extension 265 or email donna.hedges@ky.gov.

Commissioner Nelson to retire after 26 Years of Service
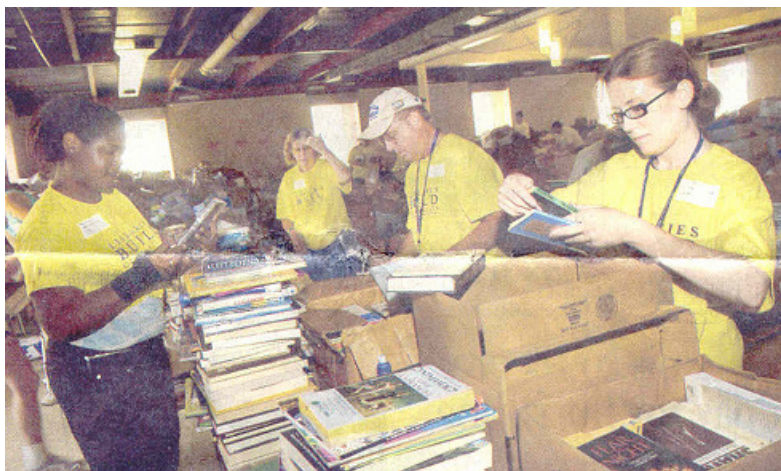
Since September 1980, James A. Nelson has served as Commissioner of the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. He will retire on September 30, 2006. Nelson's tenure ranks him as the second longest serving State Librarian in the country, surpassed only by Gary Nichols of Maine. His retirement in September also coincides with the 100th anniversary of the Kentucky Library Association.

Nelson is a graduate of the University of Colorado and the University of Kentucky's College of Library Science, where he was named Outstanding Alumnus in 1985. He has held positions in the library schools at the Universities of Wisconsin and Kentucky; was a speechwriter for Kentucky Governor Wendell Ford; served as the Director of the Hardin County Public Library; and, was a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Republic of the Philippines. Nelson has served in advisory roles with the Gates Library Foundation; the WK Kellogg Foundation; the US Congress, Office for Technology Assessment; and, the US Department of Education. He has held national offices in the American Library Association and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies as well as writing for and editing various national publications in library science and information policy. He was appointed to the Southeastern Library Network Board of Directors in October 2002 and currently serves as the Board's chairperson.

Don't expect Nelson to kick back and relax in retirement. He's planning to be a novelist. "My plans are to begin a new career as a writer", Nelson said. "I want to focus on fiction for at least a few years and have already been chipping away at a novel that I want to work on…a very different focus for me, but I've always wanted to try this and now I will be able to dedicate full time to the effort."

Volunteerism Highlighted at Annual ALA Conference

Two of Kenton County Public Library's staff members, Verna Bond-Broderick and Lesley Daley, went to the American Library Association (ALA) conference and Volunteer Day in New Orleans. A picture of them working at the Algiers Regional Branch of the New Orleans Public Library appeared on the front page of the June 24 issue of the New Orleans *Times-Picayune* newspaper.

Verna Bond-Broderick (l) and Lesley Daley (r) volunteering in New Orleans

This year's ALA conference emphasized the importance of volunteerism.   On June 23 and 27, nearly 900 conference attendees signed up for more than 22 volunteer projects to help restore local libraries, and assist with Habitat for Humanity, Common Ground and other community-building efforts.

Digital Information Management System

The U.S. Government Printing Office has taken a major step towards ensuring the American public has a one-stop website to access published government information that is authentic, version-controlled and permanently-available by announcing the selection of Harris Corporation to help develop a world-class Future Digital System.

For more information, please see the following:

News Release - GPO Takes Major Step Toward Creating Digital Information Management System http://www.gpo.gov/news/2006/06news21.pdf

Future Digital System (FDsys) Facts and Timeline http://www.gpo.gov/news/2006/FDsysFactSheet.pdf

Library Works with County Attorney's Office for Return of Materials

The Campbell County Public Library is serious about wanting to recover its long-overdue books, movies, music CD's and other materials.

Those who have accrued more than $10 in fines and have had the materials checked out for more than 120 days will begin receiving notices from the Campbell County Attorney's office. If the library's materials are not returned within 15 days of the date on the notice, criminal charges for theft by unlawful taking or disposition may be filed. This is a misdemeanor that carries a penalty of up to 12 months in jail and/or a fine of up to $500.

"We obviously don't want to pursue criminal charges against anyone unless absolutely necessary," said JC Morgan, director of the library. "However, we have an obligation to try to get all of our materials returned and back on our shelves for the public's use. Our collection is purchased with taxpayer money. Every resident of Campbell County has the right to borrow those materials."

Cameron J. Blau, assistant Campbell County attorney, will send out about 550 letters beginning in August. When the items are returned and fines paid, the library will contact Blau so that no further action will be taken. If the materials are not returned in a timely manner, the case will be referred to mediation. Failure to appear at the court-ordered mediation can result in the filing of criminal charges and prosecution.

Less than 1.5 percent of the library's patrons are excessively negligent about returning items, according to Morgan. About 1,700 items are currently extremely overdue, representing more than $30,000 worth of materials.

"We try to work with people, especially if they are having a hard time financially. Our desire is to have the materials returned in good condition," Morgan said.

This is the first time since 2005 that the library has pursued legal action to get its materials returned. A new automated web-based catalog system was implemented in March 2005, and the library offered an Amnesty week in which it waived all current and previously existing fines. Since then, the library has conducted monthly searches throughout all three branches to try and find all items listed as missing, lost or withdrawn.

Library patrons have the option to be regularly notified by mail, e-mail or phone of items that are overdue. Those who will receive letters from the county attorney's office have been previously contacted by the library a minimum of three, and usually four, times.

'Cross the Commonwealth

 The **Marion County Public Library,** in cooperation with the Marion County Extension Service, the Marion County Cattlemen Association, and the Marion County Farm Bureau held a grand finale for the summer reading group ages 5 to 10 years old. The event was held at the Marion County Fairgrounds in the Agricultural Show Barn. A total of 225 children and adults visited 15 different booths demonstrating different educational subjects. A children's petting zoo was also part of the event.

Caldwell County's George Coon Public Library received a $9,500 grant from the local Morgan Foundation. The library will use the grant to install a drive-thru window service at the main library, purchase the 1911-1955 death certificates on microfilm and a photo scanner for the Martin Genealogy Library.

Audio books are now available for download in MP3 format at the website of the **Lexington Public Library**. About 500 titles from top authors are part of the collection that is available at www.lexpublib.org. Checkout will require a Lexington Public Library card number and downloads will be loaned for a period of 21 days.

Clay County Public Library is the recipient of a grant for $14,000 from Kids Now Program. This funding will help continue the ESS classes, Early Childhood Programs and Bookmobile Outreach to Head Start and Day Care Centers.

The Fulton County School System and Murray State University's Gear Up & Soar have teamed up to give the Hickman Branch of the **Fulton County Public Library** a new computer and access to Live Homework Help.

Perry County Public Library recently hosted Silas House in a "Meet the Author" party with a large number in attendance.

Kentucky writers Sarah Elizabeth and Ron Whitehead presented a musical and storytelling program, *Western Kentucky: Lost & Forgotten, Found & Remembered*, at the **McCracken County Public Library** on Wednesday, June 7th. The program was based on their 325-mile hike across the state of Kentucky tracking their ancestors.

The 2006 **KLA/KSMA** Joint Annual Conference will be held September 27-30, 2006 at Marriott Downtown in Louisville. Registration: http://www.kylibasn.org/conreg990.cfm.

Cumberland Valley Regional Consultant Retires

Ruby Henson has retired from KDLA after five years of service to public libraries in Kentucky. During Henson's time at KDLA, libraries in the Cumberland Valley Region made great strides. Several libraries in the region were able to automate for the first time in recent years. Libraries in the Kentucky River Region and statewide have benefited from projects initiated by the Cumberland Valley office. Before coming to KDLA Henson provided many years of service to libraries in Michigan and Colorado. Her dedication and selfless efforts have greatly benefited Kentucky libraries.

Does Your Library Have a dPlan?

dPlan is a free web-based fill-in-the-blank program for writing institutional disaster plans.

It was created, tested, and refined by the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC), with funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training.

To access dPlan, log on to www.dplan.org and enter your institution's information into a template that guides you through the creation of a comprehensive disaster plan. Explore dPlan's features in an introductory demo on the homepage.

dPlan's easy-to-use program automatically supplies language for a final plan. The resulting printable, customized disaster plan contains checklists of all disaster procedures, salvage priorities, preventive maintenance schedules, current contact information for personnel, insurance and IT help, as well as a list of supply sources and emergency services.

Once completed, your password-protected plan is stored on a secure server so it can be updated on a regular basis. An automatic e-mail is sent every six months to remind you to update your plan.

According to the Heritage Health Index, produced by a partnership between Heritage Preservation and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, 80% of collecting institutions do not have an emergency plan that includes collections with staff trained to carry out the plan.

dPlan is designed to help institutions of all sizes: small and medium-sized institutions that do not have in-house preservation staff; university libraries, museum campuses, or statewide library systems that need to develop separate but related plans for multiple buildings, locations, or branches; and state agencies or professional associations that seek to structure training programs on disaster planning

To use dPlan, or to view the introductory demo, go to: www.dplan.org. For more information, contact Lori Foley of NEDCC, lfoley@nedcc.org or Gregor Trinkaus-Randall of MBLC, gregor.trinkaus-randall@state.ma.us.

Upcoming Continuing Education Events

September

6	Do You Dare to Compare? Using Informata Connect	Lexington
7	Traveling Light: Family Language Fun to Go	Princeton
12	Custom Holdings in WorldCat Resource Sharing	ONLINE
13	Do You Dare to Compare? Using Informata Connect	Bowling Green
14	Do You Dare to Compare? Using Informata Connect	Hartford
15	Genealogy Basics for Librarians	Paducah
19-22	Widening Circles VIII	Carrollton
21	Administration and Statistics in WorldCat Resource Sharing	ONLINE

October

3	Accidental Trainer	Frankfort
16	XML Fundamentals	Lexington
19	Xtreme Web Searching	Lexington
20	Xtreme Web Searching	Somerset
23	Managing E-Resources	Benton
24	Web Design with Cascading Style Sheets	Lexington
30	XML Fundamentals	Paducah

Registration is available online at: http://kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/continuinged.htm

Lexington to Host Arbuthnot Lecture

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), is pleased to announce that Lexington, Kentucky has been chosen as the site of the 2007 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture to be held Sunday, March 4. Beloved children's illustrator and author Kevin Henkes will deliver the lecture, which will be hosted by the McConnell Center for the Study of Children's Literature at the University of Kentucky School of Library and Information Science.

ConnectKentucky Announces Summer Research Series

ConnectKentucky's Research and Public Policy Group announced the launch of the ConnectKentucky Summer Research Series: *Kentucky Technology Trends 2006*. Each installment of the twelve-part series will highlight an interesting trend in Kentucky technology use as identified in the Kentucky Technology Assessment conducted by ConnectKentucky. The comprehensive assessment highlights Kentuckians' use of computers, the Internet and technology in general. For more information, visit www.connectkentucky.org.

Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

Serving Kentucky's Need to Know
An agency of the Education Cabinet

Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives
Green River Regional Office
450 Griffith Avenue
Owensboro, Ky 42301-3699

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
PLEASE FORWARD